

**REMARKS**

This paper responds to the Office Action mailed on February 7, 2007.

Claims 81-82, 93 and 95 are amended, claims 1-14, 18-20, 24-27, 39-42, 44, 46, 49-57, 65-78, 80 and 83-91 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claims 96-161 are added; as a result, claims 81-82 and 92-161 are now pending in this application.

Applicant has canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer, claims 1-14, 18-20, 24-27, 39-42, 44, 46, 49-57, 65-78, 80 and 83-91 to expedite prosecution.

Applicant has amended claim 81-82 to include all of the limitations of their base claims and any intervening claims. Applicant notes that such amendments were made to place said claims in condition for allowance, and not in response to a prior art rejection of the claims.

Applicant has amended claims 93 and 95 to correctly signify dependency upon claims 92 and 94 respectively instead of claim 90 and to correctly identify a component of the claim as “the number of signals in the fully-received Active command signal, Bank Address signals, and Row Address signals” instead of “F.” Applicant notes that such amendments were made to correct improper dependent form and to cure indefiniteness, and not in response to a prior art rejection of the claims.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that no new matter has been introduced, and respectfully requests entry of the amendments to claims.

Applicant is presenting new claims 96-161. Applicant respectfully submits that such new claims are fully supported by the previously presented claims 50-89 (see table below).

Accordingly, Applicant submits that no new matter has been introduced, and respectfully requests consideration of and allowance of new claims 96-161.

<u>New claims:</u>	<u>Supported by the previously presented claim:</u>
96, 97, 115, 116, 134, 135, 148, 149	50, 51
96, 115, 134, 148	52
97, 116, 135, 149	53
98, 99, 117, 118, 136, 138, 150, 151	54, 55 (cont.)

<u>New claims:</u>	<u>Supported by the previously presented claim:</u>
98, 117, 136, 150	56
99, 118, 137, 151	57
100, 119, 138, 152	65
101, 120, 139, 153	66
102, 121, 140, 154	67
103, 122, 141, 155	68
104, 105, 123, 124, 142, 143, 156, 157	69, 70
104, 123, 142, 156	71
105, 124, 143, 157	72
106, 107, 125, 126, 144, 145, 158, 159	73, 74
106, 125, 144, 158	75
107, 126, 145, 159	76
108, 127, 146, 160	77
109, 128, 147, 161	78
110, 129	83
111, 130	84
112, 131	85
113, 132	86, 87, 88
114, 133	89

Applicant submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 81 and 82 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended claim 81-82 to include all of the limitations of their base claims and any intervening claims, and as such, Applicant respectfully submits that such claims are in condition for allowance.

Applicant is presenting new claims 96-133 that depend upon amended claims 81-82. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that such claims include patentable subject matter beyond that recited in their respective base claims, and thus, that such claims are in condition for allowance.

Claims 92 and 94 were allowed. Applicant is presenting new claims 134-161 that depend upon allowed claims 92 and 94. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that such claims include patentable subject matter beyond that recited in their respective base claims, and thus, that such claims are in condition for allowance.

Claim Objections

Claims 91, 93 and 95 were objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 as being substantial duplicates of each other. Applicant has canceled claim 91, thereby mooted this ground of objection for said claim. With respect to claims 93 and 95, Applicant has amended said claims to overcome this objection. Applicant notes that such amendments were made to correct the improper dependent form, and not in response to a prior art rejection of the claims. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests entry of the amendments, and withdrawal of this objection to said claims.

§112 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 89, 91, 93 and 95 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as lacking adequate description or enablement. Applicant has canceled claims 89 and 91, thereby mooted this ground of rejection for said claims. Regarding claims 93 and 95, Applicant respectfully traverses. The office action states that, “[t]here is no explicit reference in the specification stating that the number of address pins *cannot be a multiple* of the number of bit word being received.” (emphasis added.) Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Claims 93 and 95, as amended and in part, recite, “wherein the number of command and address pins of the programmable memory device is not a multiple of the number of signals in the fully-received Active command signal, Bank Address signals, and Row Address signals.” Claim 93 depends upon claim 92, and claim 95 depends upon claim 94. Claims 92 and 94, in part, recite, “receiving an Active command signal, Bank Address signals, and Row Address signals using command and address pins of a programmable memory device.” Figures 2-5 illustrate examples where “the number of command and address pins of the programmable memory device is not a multiple of the number of signals in the fully-received Active command signal, Bank Address signals, and Row Address signals.” Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection to said claims.

Claims 90-91, 93 and 95 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for indefiniteness. Applicant has canceled claims 90-91, thereby mooted this ground of rejection for said claims. With respect to claims 93 and 95, Applicant has amended said claims to overcome this objection. Applicant notes that such amendments were made to correct the

indefiniteness, and not in response to a prior art rejection of the claims. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests entry of the amendments, and withdrawal of this rejection to said claims.

§103 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 1-4 and 39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over DeMone et al. (U.S. 6,266,750), Schaefer (U.S. 5,666,321) and Fujima et al. (U.S. 6,392,951). Applicant has canceled claims 1-4 and 39, thereby mooting this ground of rejection for said claims.

Claims 5-14, 40-42, 55-56, 74-75 and 77 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over DeMone et al., Schaefer, Fujima et al. and Ohshima et al. (U.S. Publication 2001/0006483). Applicant has canceled claims 5-14, 40-42, 55-56, 74-75 and 77, thereby mooting this ground of rejection for said claims.

Claims 18-20, 24-27, 44 and 46 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over DeMone et al., Fujima et al. and Ohshima et al. Applicant has canceled claims 18-20, 24-27, 44 and 46, thereby mooting this ground of rejection for said claims.

Claims 49-52, 54, 65-71, 73, 78, 80, 83-91, 93 and 95 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over DeMone et al., Schaefer, Fujima et al. and Kim (U.S. Publication 2003/01213319). Applicant has canceled claims 49-52, 54, 65-71, 73, 78, 80 and 83-91, thereby mooting this ground of rejection for said claims. With respect to dependent claims 93 and 95, Applicant has amended said claims to correct dependency, thus mooting this ground of rejection for said claims.

Claims 55-57 and 74-77 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over DeMone et al., Schaefer, Fujima et al. and Kim as applied to claims 54, 73 and 49 above, and further in view of Ohshima et al. Applicant has canceled claims 55-57 and 74-77, thereby mooting this ground of rejection for said claims.

**Reservation of Rights**

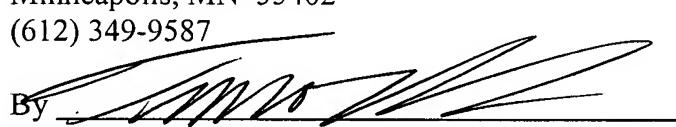
In the interest of clarity and brevity, Applicant may not have addressed every assertion made in the Office Action. Applicant's silence regarding any such assertion does not constitute any admission or acquiescence. Applicant reserves all rights not exercised in connection with

this response, such as the right to challenge or rebut any tacit or explicit characterization of any reference or of any of the present claims, the right to challenge or rebut any asserted factual or legal basis of any of the rejections, the right to swear behind any cited reference such as provided under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, or the right to assert co-ownership of any cited reference. Applicant does not admit that any of the cited references or any other references of record are relevant to the present claims, or that they constitute prior art. To the extent that any rejection or assertion is based upon the Examiner's personal knowledge, rather than any objective evidence of record as manifested by a cited prior art reference, Applicant timely objects to such reliance on Official Notice, and reserves all rights to request that the Examiner provide a reference or affidavit in support of such assertion, as required by MPEP § 2144.03. Applicant reserves all rights to pursue any cancelled claims in a subsequent patent application claiming the benefit of priority of the present patent application, and to request rejoinder of any withdrawn claim, as required by MPEP § 821.04.

### **CONCLUSION**

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney at (612) 349-9587 to facilitate prosecution of this application. If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,  
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Date 10 April 07  
By   
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**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:** The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 10 day of April 2007.

Name KATE GANNON

Signature Nate G